

*Knights of Columbus
4th Degree Assembly #200
P.O. Box 3662
Quincy, IL 62305-3662*

Received & Inspected
JUN 28 2012
FCC Mail Room

June 15, 2012

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
ATTN: Disability Rights Office, Room 3-B431
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CGB-CC-0809

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing regarding the above named case in defense of receiving a permanent exemption from closed captioning as regards our weekly airing of the "TV Mass for Shut-Ins" which we have sponsored for the past 40+ years. It airs each Sunday morning on KHQA-TV, Channel 7 in Quincy, IL.

We are respectfully requesting this exemption because we feel that this program is a benefit to the homebound who have no other means of receiving the benefits of the Holy Mass. And this outreach program not only benefits our Catholic audience, but also ministers to a wider range of Christians and believers in the viewing area.

Your file should already include our initial request, an update requesting continued exemption dated June 2, 2008 from our then Faithful Navigator Richard Heckel, and an email from me, Ron Clark, the current Faithful Navigator dated June 15, 2009. In each of these communications, we have stated many reasons why this outreach is needed, and the probable outcome if we are forced to provide closed captioning. But I would like to re-state some of these reasons.

Our Assembly does not own the necessary equipment to produce the captioning, which means outsourcing that. The cost of having to outsource is \$234 plus shipping per week, as of May 22nd. The weekly cost of the airtime is \$150. We also provide free missalettes to our viewers when they request it. We are currently having over 450 missalettes printed and shipped 4-5 times per year at a cost of \$600 each time. That would bring our annual cost to between \$22,000 and \$23,000 per year.

This ministry is funded solely by the Knights of Columbus in Quincy, its members, and donations received from our viewers. We have recently requested help from other Knights of Columbus councils, about 33-35, in our area and the TV viewing area. We received 3 responses, each with a one-time donation. These 3 donations, while appreciated, did not cover the cost of one mailing of the missalettes. We will continue to request additional help, but in these tough economic times, I am not sure that any better response will be received. I have enclosed a copy of our monthly statement to our members, and as you can see, we do not have a lot of money sitting around. Our membership is dwindling which will further decrease our income. We do have one

account which we received as a bequest, and the earnings from that are designated by the estate to be used specifically for the TV Mass. But again, it does not cover the cost.

This outreach program is a non-news program which has no repeat value. Each week is specific to a particular feast day or celebratory time in the life of Our Savior and Redeemer Jesus Christ. We provide the printed materials, at no cost to the viewer, to follow along each Sunday.

The closed captioning requirement would also change the dynamics of the program. We currently tape the Mass on Saturday evening and it is aired the next morning. The short homily is given by a different priest each week and is generally unscripted words of encouragement and enlightenment based on the specific scripture readings of the day or about the current season that the Church is in. Sometimes it is related to the full version of the homily that priest would give to his own congregation that weekend. If closed captioning were imposed, we would need to tape the program a minimum of 2 weeks in advance, send it to the closed captioning company, and then hope it is back to the TV station in time to air. That definitely throws off the impromptu feeling of the homily because the priest would have to prepare a homily for scripture readings 2 or 3 weeks in the future, as well as prepare a homily for his congregation based on the current week's scriptures. Our priests are spread thin enough as it is and this would add an additional task to their already overworked lives.

I would, again, like to respectfully request that the Commission grant a permanent exemption from the closed captioning requirements to the Knights of Columbus, 4th Degree Assembly #200 in Quincy, IL for our weekly airing of the "TV Mass for Shut-Ins". We believe that we provide a much needed and beneficial ministry to the homebound. The rising costs of production and the printed materials would force us to reconsider the viability of continuing this ministry if these requirements were imposed.

By way of future reference, correspondence after July 1st should be addressed to Russell Doellman, as he will assume the role of Faithful Navigator at that time.

Thank you, in advance, for your kind consideration.

Always in HIS Service,



Ronald M. Clark
Faithful Navigator
4th Degree Assembly #200
Knights of Columbus
P.O. Box 3662
Quincy, IL 62305-3662
217-653-0177
ron.melody.clark@gmail.com

3/19/2012

Account Balances - As of 3/19/2012

As of 3/19/2012

Page 1

Account	3/19/2012 Balance
Bank Accounts	
Assembly	16,838.63
Central State Bank CD	8,574.40
State Street Bank CD	19,897.99
TV Mass	12,372.51
TOTAL Bank Accounts	57,683.53
Cash Accounts	
Petty Cash	95.00
TOTAL Cash Accounts	95.00
Liability Accounts	
Liability	1,120.00
TOTAL Liability Accounts	1,120.00
OVERALL TOTAL	58,898.53